IN THIS NUMBER

NATIONAL COUNCIL STATE GARDEN CLUB FEDERATIONS

THE BIG MEDICINE OF THE DWARF FORESTS
By Ruth R. Nelson

LATH HOUSE BLUES
By Eva Kenworthy Gray

OCTOBER, 1931 TEN CENTS

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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE GARDEN CLUB FEDERATIONS

Excerpts from the Bulletin of the National Council of State Garden Club Federations and year books of some of the same regarding its general purpose, the service rendered by a state federation, some of the last year's activities of the different states and the dues.

I.

Greeting by National President

"Our whole country is now experiencing a delightful and wholly unprecedented tide of enthusiasm for gardening.

"Obviously this opportunity should be utilized in such a manner as to produce really constructive results. Individuals should be encouraged to have their own gardens; each community its own Garden Club; each State its Federation of Garden Clubs; and these Federations would fall short of their full possibilities unless confederated in our National Council of State Garden Club Federations.

"From the work of this organization we may well hope that results of the greatest value will follow—not only to the individual gardeners by broadening their contacts and putting them in touch, through this clearing house, with thousands of other gardeners, but to the whole nation by the tremendous force thus made available and which may be directed to bring beauty and the spirit of peace throughout our land."

"With the phenomenal increase in the number of garden clubs throughout the country has come widespread appreciation of their great civic worth and helpfulness. Also there has come to the clubs, themselves, a realization of the need of greater cooperation and concentrated effort. That this can best be accomplished through a State Federation is an accepted fact, recognizing the old truism of 'strength in union' and that a federation means greater opportunities for service to the whole state."

"A survey of the work being done by State Federations shows that each Federation has developed certain specialized interests which differ from those of the others. These interests range from the growth of seeds to the planning of boulevards and parkways; from abatement of hay fever to providing markets for the products of farm women; from the elimination of river pollution to the restoration of traditional landmarks.

"Each Federation is becoming a specialist in a particular field of garden work and its experience should be invaluable to other Federations."

"Recognizing the old truism of Strength in Union, and that a federation means greater opportunity for service to the whole state, a large majority of the states have responded by federating.

"No garden club should so dwarf its spirit as to feel that it cannot receive benefit from the Federation. If a club is so situated as not to need help, consider of how much value it might be to the other clubs of the state. Why do we ask so promptly 'What will we get?' Why not, 'What can we give?' 'He who gives of his crust, feeds three, himself, his hungry neighbor and me'."

"That it is worth while, is proved by the fact that no properly organized and functioning garden club will ever return to narrow isolated effort after having once shared the larger fellowship."

II.

General Purpose

"To coordinate the interests of the various Garden Clubs in the state through conference, correspondence and association.

"This will result in a larger organization and body of sentiment in all cases where public support is needed to initiate or advance some cause related to gardening, such for example, as conservation and protection of native wild flowers;

"The encouragement of civic planting;

"The restriction of billboards;

"The preservation of scenic and historical localities;

"The planting of trees and care of roadsides;

"The creating of a spirit of cottage gardening in California similar to that existing in England;

"To serve as a clearing house for help and information on all subjects pertinent to Garden Clubs—such as flower shows, lectures, lantern slides, cooperation and organization;

"To assist in the development of Junior Garden Clubs of the state and to encourage children's gardens generally where no regular club has been organized.

"To cooperate with Horticultural Societies, special plant societies, such as the American Iris, Peony, Rose and Dahlia Societies, and last but not least, to help make California the State Beautiful."

III.

Service

"Year Book: Most State Federations publish a year book, giving reports from member clubs as to names and addresses of officers, year's programs, speakers, civic projects and any outstanding item of their history. These reports are of great value to other clubs, particularly in inspiration for their program building. The year books contain resumes of flower show news, directions for running a flower show and a few pertinent horticultural items.

"Monthly News: Most of the Federations have some method of getting gardening news to the members once a month. This varies in the different groups from a mimeographed news letter of the things that come up at the monthly board meteing in which the member clubs are interested, to a few pages in some local horticultural journal, to a journal published by the federation.

"Scrap Book: This is not a service to the member clubs but from them to the central group. It is a great inspiration to a State Federation to keep close track of the activities of its members and a scrap book from clippings is a joy to presidents, program and publicity chairmen. In so far as it is available for general use it is also of service to other member clubs."

IV.

What the Other States Are Doing

"Connecticut has had a flower show conference and displayed a collection of posters on wild flower conservation, done by children. The Clubs are planting forsythia along the highway, hoping to make all their state a forsythia trail.

"Florida is trying to save its state from being denuded of its rare plants and fine trees —working with its state forester, and each club has been asked to reforest at least one acre.

"Illinois gave a flower show in Chicago last year that cleared them $15,000. They are concentrating on removal of billboards that are unsightly and make driving hazardous on the highways.

"Iowa held ten garden schools in different parts of the state, sponsored by Ames University. They maintain a radio hour with speakers from Ames, and a much-used Speakers' Bureau.

"Massachusetts reported a two-day spring pilgrimage and mid-winter planting demonstration in Horticultural Hall.

"Maryland has pledged itself to raise $5,000 for the planting of the five main highways leading from Maryland to the District of Columbia on the occasion of the Washington Bicentenary in 1932. The money raised by the Garden Pilgrimage in Maryland this year went for this purpose.

"The National Capitol has a two-day course for Judges. They are the only Federation reporting a horticultural survey of their own.

"New Jersey has more miles of through roads in proportion to the size of the state than any other state, therefore the interest of the Garden Clubs has been forced to follow these channels. They have fought for their Restriction of Billboards and are now urging establishment of pedestrian walks along roads in order to reduce automobile accidents.

"New York has a four day lecture course for judging and final examination. It long ago discovered that the weakest point of any flower show is temperamental judging. It hopes that other states will follow its example in this respect and establish a similar school of judging. Students attended from eleven states and two other federations held similar courses this year, showing the need. They report better organization of the state; counties and districts are working together for flower shows and in conservation and billboard activities, whereas such work used to be done by individual clubs.

"North Carolina planted Japanese cherries along highways; had a state-wide essay contest among school children. They maintain a Speakers' Bureau and a Readers' Guide.

"Ohio specializes in its summer pilgrimage. Thirty-three lectures have been arranged for it. Ohio furnishes plants, shrubs and seeds to school children for planting along highways.

"Pennsylvania—only one year old—has offered a gold medal to the club which shows the greatest achievement during the year. This was awarded to Lawrence County Garden Club for planting three miles of highway with Elm trees, conducting a Better Lawns Contest and establishing Garden Clubs in schools, etc.

"Tennessee's outstanding work is the planning of a park on the side of Lookout Mountain to the memory of Ernest Wilson. The only plants and shrubs used are those introduced by him. They are backing several bills in their Legislature on conservation and billboard restriction.

"Texas is planting native material along their section of the Broadway Highway from New York to San Diego and is to publish a book on cultural directions for Texas growers,

since very little has been written on the problems of the small garden of the arid Southwest.

"Virginia is undertaking to restore and conserve the beauties of the garden at Statford —the birthplace of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

"In West Virginia one member in a small club has planted 15,000 evergreens in memory of George Washington."

V.

Dues

Each state determines its own dues. It is better for the newly formed or forming Fedreation to have each member Club pay the State Federation a fixed amount each year—say 15 cents per capita. This sum includes 5 cents for the National, to which a federation of not less than ten clubs is eligible after completing a year's existence. It is better that the sum cover the 5 cents per capita annually to the National Council as then the state, when joining the National, need not make further reference to the individual club.

New York, and a few of the others, handle the situation as follows:

Clubs numbering 50 or less, $5.00; each additional 50 members or fractional number thereof, $5.00. Clubs numbering more than 200 members a maximum fee of $20.00.

Tennessee: 15 cents per capita, annually.

Maryland: $10.00 each club, annually.

Wisconsin: 50 cents per capita, entitling each member to a copy of Wisconsin Horticultural Magazine; 15 cents of which is retained by the federation.

North Carolina: 25 cents per capita.

Etc., etc.

—Elvenia J. Slosson.

GOPHER BAIT

A very expert gopher trapper in Pomona has found that a dried pear slice with a grain of strychnine inserted is sure death. They seem to like the pear better than any bait he has tried. K. O. Sessions.

A slug is no respecter of gardens. So eminent a sempervivumist as Charles W. Armstrong of Vancouver, B. C., is bewailing the loss of several precious specimens from raids of the slimy pests. He sends on a recipe for a solution for the benefit of those who likewise suffer:

Two pounds of lime slacked in ten gallons of water. Two pounds of alum sulphate dissolved in hot water, decanting the lime water into it. When settled spray the cacti through a fine nozzle and, presto, it does the work.

To quote Mr. Armstrong: "For a month now I have not found a trace of a slug. The above formula does not harm or disfigure the young growth."

(Cactus and Succulent Journal of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America.) Sept., 1931.

ACANTHUS MOLLUS AND DURANTA

By Bertha M. Thomas

Why do we not see more Acanthus grown? They have such a tropical effect—the leaves are so large, so glossy, so handsomely divided, the bloom stalks so tall and lasting for several months. When the blooming season is over the plant needs cutting down, about August. Possibly roots will nede re-setting. Then new leaves quickly grow with new bloom stalks appearing in very early spring.

An individual blossom is not much to boast about, either as to size or color, but the dozen or more of the 6 or 7 foot stalks which will rise from the rosette of large leaves at the base make a noticeable specimen plant.

No insects infest it although occasionally a starved snail will dine on a leaf, or rather he will make a small hole in one, for he would have a large job on his hands if he ate a whole leaf.

The variety usually grown here is the Mollus. We have a seedling plant of the Latifolia variety which grows larger with leaves quite different. They seem to prefer a little shade and plenty of water and the plant is always in good form except for a few weeks after blooming season.

We have a Duranti on front lawn which is greatly admired. It has an open space and has grown such a beautiful symmetrical shape, being fully 10 feet high and almost spherical. The branches are covered with masses of the orange berries and the ends with the dainty blue flowers. There isn't a day of the year which fails to show its blossoms. The leaves change so gradually from old to new that the appearance of the tree is always good and the leaves are so small they dry up and leave no litter on the lawn. The berries hang on each year until new ones are coming, and the old ones which fall are picked up by the birds. They never seem to bother them on the tree, possibly because the berries cling quite tenaciously and also the thorns are the one and only criticism one could put forth against an otherwise perfect ornamental tree, and these thorns come in pairs at each axis. Some varieties are spineless but they do not grow in as pretty a form, according to opinion of many.

BEST KEEPING DAHLIA

The Best Keeping Dahlia at the Flower Show was Barbara Wear, a fine lavender shade that when it first blooms is rather dark, but later in the season the flower comes about the shade of Shudow's Lavender. The petals are rather curly and the flower full and round. The best keeper for cut flowers I've had this year.

—E. K. G.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

THE BIG MEDICINE OF THE DWARF FORESTS

By Ruth R. Nelson

Although our summer tourists view the "Dwarf Forests" of Southern California during a season when thick cloaks of dust dim their hillside beauty, yet throughout the dry months of the year, many important chaparral shrubs are blossoming and forming their berry-like fruits.

The name "chaparral," given by the early Spanish Californians to the conglomerate mass of brush which forms the dwarf forests covering our coastal hillsides, was derived from the word "chaparro," scrub oak, the sprawling thorny-leafed shrub which still predominates, and was reason enough, in the early days, for high boots and huge leather stirrups for the Spanish soldiers who had to break their own way through this thorny growth many times. Growing sometimes in bush-like form, and at others covering the ground with masses thick enough to support the weight of a man, the hardy scrub oak produces merely a slender, tapering acorn, which matures, however, within one year. We do not know that this small acorn was used by the seed-gathering Indians, but most certainly the savages must have found the scrub oak clumps to be excellent trapping places for the squirrels and field mice which they doubtless preferred. For the oak bushes are quickly stripped of their acorns by these small animals, every year.

Beginning in 1769, with little Dr. Prat's frantic search over the hills near San Diego, for herb remedies for his scurvy-ridden ship mates, the early Spanish settlers discovered many native shrubs and plants which they used as remedies, while the Indians themselves, made use of nearly every native plant and tree in their vicinity. Probably best known to us among these useful native shrubs are the sumach, the greasewood (chamise), California holly (toyon), wild lilac (ceanothus), sage, manzinita, buckwheat, wild cherry, romero and lemonade bush (wild mahogany).

Important among those which are summer-blooming shrubs is the sumach (Rhus canadensis) or squaw berry. This is a hardy native which quickly grows to tree-like proportions under cultivation. In midsummer spiky clusters of small creamy flowers appear on the tips of its tall straight branches, soon followed by tiny berries, pleasantly acid and well-liked by the Indians who also found in the sumach their most valued basket material.

Much tougher than the pliable willow, the young sumach twigs were soaked, scraped and split, then closely and firmly bound over a succession of small rolls of grass by which the form of the baskets were built up, the weavers using a sharpened bone for an awl, and a needle made of a horny cactus stem set into a head of hardened pitch. Such baskets were very durable, held water, and were constantly used for cooking.

When "sha-wee" (acorn mush), chia mush, abalone or mussel soup was to be made, this food was first prepared in the bowl-shaped sumach basket. Then, using two green sticks for tongs, an Indian woman would draw out from among the coals of the village fire, several smooth gray stones which were very hot. These were brushed off quickly with a bunch of tules, then lifted by a green stick with a hook on the end which fitted around the stone, and dropped the basket. This was continued until the food was considered cooked enough. If it was mush, it was then eaten by scooping it out with sticks hollowed out at one end. Soup was dipped out with abalone shells in which the holes had been plugged.

Baskets of quite different shapes were made for gathering seeds while the dew was still on the grass in the early morning. A small basket was used to brush the seed off into a large flat basket, and this was frequently emptied into a large deep one carried upon the back by a wide band around the head. Maidenhair fern and "tsu-wish," the black root of the tule, were used to weave the patterns in these baskets, each of which had a meaning. The odor of sumach never leaves the articles which are made of it, and this odor can easily be recognized about all Indian camps.

Midsummer also finds our handsomest native shrub, the toyon or California holly (Heteromometes arbutifolia) in full blossom. Flowers of the toyon appear in spicy white clusters, and since these shrubs have been protected by state law, even near the highways their bright scarlet berries brighten the chaparral as the holidays draw near. Together with twigs of the wild cherry, which has a prickly foliage much more holly-like, the toyon finds its way into nearly every Christmas wreath in California. Toyon tea was used by the Indians and early Californians as one of their poison-oak remedies, and while the savages eagerly gorged themselves upon the raw puckery berries, the settlers learned to make use of them in preparing a very agreeable drink.

The wild cherry which grows in bushy hedges, with fruit which ripens in summer, was of course not overlooked by the seed and berry hunting natives who shelled the small cherry kernels, and prepared them like acorns by grinding in a metate, then removing the bitter tannin by leaching in first cold, then warm water run through coarse baskets containing the meal and set down into deep sand during this process.

But most conspicuous of all, amongst the summer flowering shrubs, of our dwarf forests, is the mint bush Wooly Curls, (Trichostema lanatum) which was given the musical

name of "Romero" by the early Californians, and became one of their best-known and most valued medicinal herbs, used by them as a remedy for many troubles. By frying the leaves in olive oil, they prepared an ointment which relieved pain and cured ulcers. When we read of Father Crespi's joy when he discovered this flowering mint bush on his first journey to Monterey, we wonder whether he may not have recognized it as the herb which held a part in the miraculous relief given by the muleteer's ointment when Father Serra's badly ulcerated leg threatened to delay Portola's overland expedition of forty-five days, from "the frontier" of Mexico to the shores of San Diego in 1769. Applied in the evening, the muleteer's herb ointment eased Father Serra's pain, and relieved him so much that he rested well and was able to go forward in the morning as usual.

Dried and powdered, romero leaves were useful snuff for catarrh, made into a tincture they were applied as a liniment. By the Indians the leaves were made into an infusion to relieve headache, and to use in stupifying fish so that these could be lifted out of the water with baskets.

The romero is a hardy half-shrub, from two to five feet tall, with stiffly-erect woody stalks crowded with narrow lancelike leaves of polished green which, more than those of any other bushy member of the chaparral, have the quality of shedding dust, and standing forth in their own clean green throughout the dusty summer months while the plants' wooly rose-blue buds slowly unfold into curly-stammened flowers of velvety blue, and every stiff straight stalk is transformed into an "exquisite thing, more like the production of a Parisian milliner than a guileless creation of nature. The individual blossoms have the look of alert blue violets wearing long lilac aigrets. Both leaf and flower have a pleasant aromatic fragrance,"* entirely unlike any other native shrub. To come for the first time upon one of these sturdy clumps of romero in full flower, is an experience not easily forgotten. While transplanting the romero into the garden, where it may be cared for and occasionally cut back, provides a lovely branching shrub which blossoms continually throughout the year, and furnishes an interesting note of contrast for many flower arrangements.

*Parsons—"Wild Flowers of California."

BIGNONIA CHAMBERLAYNEI

Bignonia Chamberlaynei from Brazil is common in Honolulu, and in July a plant bloomed in my nursery for the first time. It is very similar to Bignonia Tweediana that is quite common in San Diego, but the flower is larger and foliage a little different but they both are vines that cling to any surface with three little claws. The Tweediana blooms in April for only about two weeks, but the other blooms from April to October. Tweediana is from Buenos Aires and Chamberlaynei is from Brazil. Two Los Angeles nurseries have been growing the Chamberlayneis for the past two years.

K. O. Sessions.

X-RAYED SEED OF ANNUAL PLANT PRODUCES PERENNIAL

Once more an experiment in the interest of fundamental research has produced a surprising result which may provide clues to the process of evolution in nature.

X rays, acting on a seed, have changed the resulting plant from an annual to a perennial, the United States Department of Agriculture reports. A perennial grows for many years from the same roots, while an annual grows for only one year.

The discovery was made by Dr. L. F. Randolph, department cytologist and research associate at Cornell University, in experiments on the effect of X rays in changing hereditary characteristics of plants. As far as known, this is the first time X rays have ever changed an annual to a perennial.

The plant which was changed was the annual Euchlaena, the closest relative to corn. A seed was treated with X rays for a few minutes and then germinated. The resulting plant began as an annual, but while still young it developed some of the characteristics of a perennial. Still later the annual part died and the remaining part developed into a true perennial.

There seems to be no reason to doubt that the new perennial can be propagated indefinitely from its roots. Scientists regard it as a new species, and the behavior of its seeds will be watched with much interest.

The discovery is important because it gives a possible clue to the evolutionary processes of nature and may explain how perennials became perennials. No X rays are known to have taken part in nature's evolutionary processes, but somewhat similar short-wave radiation occurs from rocks in many parts of the earth's surface.

It is problematic whether or not a similar X-ray treatment will produce the same effect again. The treatments were not made to produce this effect but to study the effect of X rays on the heredity of plants. The change from the annual to perennial was merely a surprising and unexpected result of one of the many experiments.

Research on the effect of radium, X rays, and other forces on heredity in plants have been going on for several years. Much of the department's work in this field has been conducted by Dr. L. J. Stadler at the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station and Doctor Randolph at Cornell.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

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CHARLOTTE ROBINSON

The San Diego Floral Association and California Garden have sustained a loss that words can but faintly express.

Charlotte Robinson, beloved daughter of Mr. A. D. Robinson, our founder and former editor, was called by death on September 20th.

Miss Robinson, on the day of her birth was made a life member of the Floral Association and to many of us one of the sweetest memories of those early days is of the tiny child who never failed to bring to each show the choicest blossoms from her little garden and who arranged them with such art; winning many prizes and blue ribbons.

We extend to Mr. Robinson and his wife our deepest sympathy.

—The Members of the
San Diego Floral Association.

The editor joins with members of the San Diego Floral Association in an expression of sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Robinson in their bereavement.

AWARDS IN GARDEN CONTEST

The last judging of the gardens entered in the contest conducted by the Floral Association has been completed, prizes and certificates awarded. To those who entered, I am sure, if judging from the keen interest taken to place their beloved garden in the winning class, the time has been well spent, not only for their own personal joy, their friends and neighbors, but the benefit to the community. Every fine garden is an asset to a city. Who does not enjoy passing by a lovely, well-kept home?

San Diego with its wonderful climate should be a mecca of lawns, trees and flowers. Every year should find a longer list of entries. May your own civic pride help to make San Diego one of the most beautiful cities of homes on the Pacific coast.

In the contest of 1931, the gardens are classified as large, medium and small and each garden is compared with others of the same class. The scale of points used for judging is as follows:

1.—10	Plan of garden in relation to house, view, surroundings.
2.—10	Value of garden as an asset to neighborhood.
3.—10	Plan or design of the garden itself.
4.—20	Physical condition of plants, trees, shrubs, etc.
5.—10	Quantity and quality of blooms.
6.—15	Proper selection of varieties in carrying out plan.
7.— 5	Use of rare and novel plants.
8.—10	Neatness of paths, garden, etc.
9.—10	Appearance of lawn.

Select garden features receive awards as follows:

Best annuals and perennials.
Best patio.
Best pool.
Best treatment of walls.
Best lath house.
Best cactus garden.
Best treatment of parking.
Best tree.
Best rose garden.
Best hedge.
Best lawn.

The following results were reached by making an average of points from Spring and Fall judging:

First—Large Garden—Mr. George Marston.
First—Medium-sized Garden—Mrs. Herbert S. Evans.
First—Small-sized Garden—Mrs. F. F. Edelen.

Specials

Best Civic Garden—Naval Training Station, Capt. Gammon, Commander.
Best Apartment—Park Manor.
Best Civic Cactus Garden—El Patio, Mr. John Snyder.

Best Annuals and Perennials—Mrs. Frank Strausser.
Best Patio—Mrs. B. J. O'Neill.
Best Pool—Mr. Thomas Hamilton.
Best Treatment of Wall—Mrs. Herbert S. Evans.
Best Lath House—Mrs. H. C. Dunning.
Best Cactus Garden—Mr. Thomas Hamilton.
Best Treatment of Parking—Mrs. Herbert S. Evans.
Best Tree—Mr. George Marston.
Best Rose Garden—Mr. Frank Strausser.
Best Hedge—Mr. F. F. Edelen.
Best Lawn—Mr. Mat Heller.

Judges for the Spring Contest were:
Mr. John J. Reeves, 605 Linden Drive, Beverly Hills.
Mr. Alois Frey, 13345 Hubbard Ave., San Mateo.
Mr. Middlebrook, Park Manor.

Judges for the Fall Contest were:
Mr. John Morley, San Diego.
Mr. Geo. Otto, San Diego.
Mr. S. B. Osborn, La Mesa.

Signed,
Mr. Middlebrook,
Mrs. John Burnham,
Mr. John Snyder,
Committee.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF FALL FLOWER SHOW, AUGUST, 1931

Gate Receipts		$351.20
Expenses:		
Publicity and advertising	$ 47.00	
Trophies	88.40	
Labor	25.25	
Express	7.00	
Table Covers	5.50	
Clerk's Supplies	5.90	
Certificates	21.25	
Judges' Lunches	4.00	
Total		$204.30
Net		$146.90

Mary Greer, Show Chairman.

WEATHER DURING NOVEMBER

Dean Blake, Meteorologist

If one month is more enjoyable than the others, to most of us in San Diego it is November. The relative humidity is low, the tempreature moderate, and the air dry and invigorating. The amount of sunshine is at its maximum, and clear days are plentiful. Rain may be expected on only 4 days. Hot, muggy weather never occurs, and days with temperatures above 80° are attended by dry winds and are in no way oppressive or debilitating.

If the season is well advanced, frosts may be expected toward the end of the month in the citrus districts, and the season for tender truck and vegetables usually ends in the valleys back from the coast.

November rains vary widely from season to season in both frequency and amounts. It has happened several times that no rain has fallen during the month, and in several instances the monthly total was over 2 inches. Precipitation, however, is but seldom accompanied by wind storms, and gales have never been recorded since the establishment of the station in 1872.

Altogether, there is sufficient variation in temperature between day and night and from day to day to make the month one of keen enjoyment, and one particularly favorable for work and play in the open.

REPORT OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

For the September program of the Floral Association, Mrs. Maurice Braun gave an informal talk on the subject of "Arranging Flowers."

Because it takes unlimited time to make aesthetic arrangements of flowers, and is practically impossible during a talk, Mrs. Braun arranged a number of decorations around the room, with the assistance of Mrs. Greer, on the day of this meeting; carrying out something of the phase of flower arrangement that she expected to emphasize. She did illustrate hr talk with suggstions about relating the flowers and foliage to other phases of the decorations in the home, but she said that it was her intention, but to suggest some of the observations that she felt, perhaps, she had gleaned from the world of art. She said that all arrangement of flowers offers an opportunity for artistry, for expression of individual taste, and it is for this reason that she feels it is important to make an effort to interest every person in its possibilities.

In the general theme of Mrs. Braun's talk and the environment that she created for it, the use of gray and gray-violet as harmonizers was emphasized. She used pulverulenta eucalyptus in a turquoise jar, honesty with gray foliage in a sapphire glass bowl on another table, over a screen, nearby she threw a robin-egg blue shawl with a bowl of gray Silver King nearby on the window ledge, all of this was a setting for a large arrangement of autumnal-toned artemesia dahlias.

A quiet and refinement of atmosphere results from the use of gray tones, but of course they must have, as a foil, some warmth of color nearby. She said that all artists are aware of the use of gray in nature's harmonious plan, that artists teach us to observe the tapestry of gray, gold and brown grasses beside the roadway and on the hillside, the veil of gray-violet atmosphere that brings the world about us into a harmonious blending of color. She brought an exhibition of paintings of flowers arranged by artists; these gave a delightful feeling to the room and added to the demonstration, for the background in each painting

was grayed in tone. Miss Edith White's "Hillside Flowers," loaned by the Theosophical University, was a beautiful arrangement of wild pink mallow and yellow "tobacco" plant blooms in a blue jar, all of the tones suggested grayed values. Charles Reiffel and Maurice Braun each loaned a still-life, and in them was an expression of an artist's love of flowers and aesthetic arrangement of all the component parts of a picture. Mrs. G. E. Harrison loaned a water-color of spontaneously painted Matilija Poppies and another arrangement in oils, a golden harmony; roses by Miss White loaned by Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Robinson and a quiet toned painting by Deane Smith of pelargoniums also came from their home. There were reproductions of Paul de Longpre's roses and several originals by Anna Baldaugh, who loves to arrange bright colors all together.

Mrs. Braun spoke of the opportunity that a beautiful arrangement of flowers on the dining table may have in effect upon the family. She said it is there that they are assembled more often together than any other place; if only material food is provided, what about the spiritual nature? Must it go hungry when beauty is so easily available? She said the dash into the garden before breakfast brings not only the breath of a fresh cut rose, it might bring a sprig of mint, or of parsley for the bacon and eggs or a large green leaf or two on which to serve the fruit. She said she feels that children who live constantly with the beauty of growing things before them, arranged to call their attention to this beauty, will be much less likely to incline toward the ugly phases of life.

She spoke of the Japanese arrangement of flowers, she illustrated this with the foliage of iris and a few South African Snowdrops, telling something of the philosophical and aesthetic background for this art.

She spoke of the impersonality of flowers, the lesson they always have for us as symbols of Divinity, so unobtrusive, so quiet with all the grandeur of their beauty.

A few valuable hints that Mrs. Braun gave in her talk were: Keep the sense of growing things in the arrangement of flowers, cut stems long, but do not cut them all the same length, weigh well the colors that you blend, but if it is necessary to use stronger color than is wished, keep some gray sage sprays from the mountains and some of the gray-violet statice always at hand, and it is surprising how beautifully they will help to make a harmony of colors that might not otherwise be so happy together. The shape of the flowers that are to be combined has a value as well as the color. Grasses are very helpful in giving the spirit of the out-of-doors to a basket of flowers. The container plays an important part in the effectiveness of a flower arrangement in color and shape. Gray toned jars with no decoration are usually found to be more satisfactory than highly ornamented vases. A large copper bowl on a wrought iron stand, has proven invaluable in her home. Having a beautiful grouping of flowers in the hallway or near the entrance to greet one's friends, is pleasing and a kinship of the decorations about a room shows thoughtfulness.

Autumn leaves and large sprays of persimmons were arranged in the back of the room not far from gray eucalyptus, coral antigonon climbed with lace white antigonon from a basket set on an old blue brocade with pink embroidery, near the doorway.

FLOWER SHOWS IN ENGLAND

Miss Alice Eastwood, botanist for the Academy of Science in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, attended several flower shows in England in 1930 and writing after her return said: "California is 100 years behind in putting on a flower show."

Without doubt, the secret lies in the long experience of the well established nurseries and their skilled employees, together with the skilled gardeners and managers of the many old and fine private estates of England. The English people are extremely fond of flowers and plants and spend liberally for them and are intelligent critics. The first day of the Royal Horticultural Show the entrance fee is $2.50; the second day $1.25, and the third and last day 50 cents. The attendance is very large.

The specimens of annual and perennial flowers shown at these exhibits are grown especially for the show and as a rule exhibited ahead of their planting season as a special advertisement of the stock they wish to sell in the next month or two for outside planting.

California horticulture, and San Diego in particular, is still in its infancy for it is less than 100 years old, but it has a most promising future.

K. O. SESSIONS.

YUCCA GUATEMALAENSIS

Three years ago I purchased a yucca at the Coronado Flower Show, attracted by its fine sineless foliage. It was about five feet high. It has grown very well and is now 10 feet high and has bloomed for the first time. It has a fine cluster of very pure white bell-shaped flowers on a good two-foot spike. This yucca is from Guatemala and is so named, Y. Guatemalaensis. It sends out many small shoots at the base which root easily when 18 inches to 2 feet long. It is certainly a very decorative plant and a fine addition for our gardens. Its leaves are abundant, of fine color and free from the savage spike that is so characteristic of most yuccas.

K. O. SESSIONS.

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The Garden

By Walter Birch

October is a great bulb planting month and most of the bulbs are now available and ready for planting.

You have probably already planted your freesias, both white and colored, but, if not, do not delay in finishing up your planting of these attractive flowers at once. They are very pretty in their various colors, deliciously fragrant and easily grown and should be planted in shady or semi-shady locations.

Ranunculus are also easily grown and very popular both for garden show or cut flowers, needing a more sunny location for spring blooms, but, as these bulbs should be planted until the New Year or even later for a succession of blooms, the later plantings can be in more shady locations, as late spring and early summer sun is hard on the blooms. Be sure to plant these funny looking bulbs with the claws down, covering about two inches above the top of the bulb and about six inches apart.

Narcissus, or more commonly known as daffodils, will be largely planted for the next two months and they are one of the bulb family we would hate to dispense with. They are particularly valuable when planted amongst the shrubbery and allowed to naturalize, or can be grown in beds or borders. Their keeping qualities and fragrance as cut flowers are hard to beat, and they are very easy to grow, preferring partial shade but will stand a fair amount of sunshine. Good Narcissi bulbs are pretty large and should be planted about five inches deep, and like most bulbs will do better in an easily worked deep soil. There are many varieties but two outstanding ones of the large trumpet varieties are King Alfred, color pure yellow, and Emperor, golden yellow.

The planting time of Tulips is practically the same as Daffodils and the Darwin type is the most commonly used here. If you have not spaded in animal fertilizer for your tulip bed a couple of months ago, it will be safer to use bone meal in the soil around the bulb. Tulips come in many attractive colors, pinks, yellows, rose, scarlet, heliotrope, etc.

Hyacinths are also in season, but are not as largely planted here, as many other bulbs, they need a protected location and some shade. Plant five or six inches deep.

In planting your lily bulbs choose a location where there is some shade and protection from the wind, and where they can be left permanently.

The Auratum or Gold Banded Lily is a truly beautiful flower and does very well in and around San Diego. Also the Regale, large flowers, the inside delicately shaded canary yellow, outside white shaded purple. Lily bulbs should be planted from seven to ten inches deep and are happier in easily worked deep soils.

Don't forget to plant a few German Iris, they are very beautiful and easy to grow. Instead of the shallow planting recommended, you will raise finer and more flowers in this locality if you will plant your rhizomes a little deeper and use more manure (not necessarily right up to the bulb) and bone meal, or in other words be a little more generous in your treatment of these very beautiful flowers, which will give you many wonderful flowers in spring and early summer, and some of them later in the year. Do not be afraid to plant medium or large size rhizomes with withered tops, they always get that way when dug some time, but are quite safe to plant.

In preparing for bulbs, deep spading is important, especially in the heavier soils, and a mulch of strawy manure over the surface to prevent baking and drying out and enrich the soil is very helpful.

Finish up your heavy planting of annual and perennial flower seeds before the ground gets cold, and set out all plants that are now ready.

Talking of house plants, the writer was up north the other day amongst some of the large growers, and found the good people of Los Angeles and Pasadena quite dotty about Sansevieria, as the best, most attractive and easiest kept house plant imaginable. You can forget to water them, keep them out of the sun, abuse them in almost any way, and still they grow. They are unique and beautiful in appearance, long sword-like leaves, mottled, green tapering off to a needle point, some edged with gold. But you have to see them to realize what they really are and what a desirable house plant they make. Of course, we had some shipped down and some Crotons and colored Dracaenas, all very beautiful for house use.

Don't forget that October is the time to make your lawn look decent for another year. Rake it over thoroughly with a devil grass rake, which you can hire if you wish, sow some white clover, about one pound to every four or five hundred square feet, use some Lawn

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Pep Fertilizer, about fifty pounds to one thousand or twelve hundred square feet. Don't neglect the watering and you will be surprised what a good looking lawn you will have in two or three weeks. The Devil Grass Cutter cleans up the unsightly gray stalks and runners of the devil grass, that look worse as the winter progresses, the white clover which is a fast grower, quickly gives a green surface, the fertilizer stimulates the old grass and the new and the result is altogether satisfactory unless the lawn is so bad that you feel you must dig it up and have a new one.

THE GARDEN CLUB MANUAL
By Edith R. Fisher
(The Macmillan Co., 1931; $2.00.)

This very practical little book should be a Vade Mecum of the anxious garden club president and harried flower-show manager. Mrs. Fisher's experience in this field is evidenced in her business-like chapters on organization and methods, her abundant suggestions for programs, her elaborate discussion of flower shows including both the staging and judging, her tabulated scorings to guide in judging all kinds of exhibition blooms and other objects besides, and her helpful discussion of the opportunities afforded to garden clubs in furthering civic projects,—all combining to make her book one which should be on the shelves of every garden club, every club executive and every public library. She feels that much valuable community service may be accomplished by almost any well organized garden club, however meager its material resources may be, and she successfully points the way toward making these resources tell to their possible utmost. Undaunted even by the terrors of modern gasoline and roadside markets, she feels that here is afforded one of the most promising points of attack. This is but one sample of a long array of suggested projects. The generality of our flower shows would certainly find themselves better organized, less nerve-racking to participants, and considerably more satisfying to the beholders if those engaged in conducting them would first give heed to some of the admonitions in this book. Something of this sort we have to long needed.

S. S. B.

BROWN PATCH IN LAWNS PREVALENT THIS SUMMER

The so-called brown patch in lawns was more prevalent than usual this summer. This is caused by a fungus which thrives in humidity and the protracted hot spell furnished a medium conducive to its development. The spots usually take the form of semi-circular areas of discolored turf presenting somewhat the appearance of oil stain. In the beginning they are straw-colored and later turn a dark brown. In size, the spots first appear about two to two and one-half inches in diameter and increase in size until they meet with other spots.

Not only blue grass lawns but also those composed of bent grasses, such as are used on golf courses, are affected. Lawns on heavy soil are more likely to suffer from brown patch than those on sandy soils, and more of this disease is found in bent grass than in blue grass lawns.

As a control measure, G. R. Gorton, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, Los Angeles County, recommends the use of Mercuric chloride, common corrosive sublimate, applied in a liquid form at the rate of 1-1000. This solution is prepared by dissolving one 7 and 8/10 grain tablet for each pint of water used. The material however, should not be mixed in a metal container, as the mercury forms amalgam with the metal and considerable of the value of the mixture is lost. Wood, glass or pottery containers are suitable.

So-called chlorophenol mecuries or organic mercuric compounds are also usable for this purpose. This material, put out under the trade name of Semesan, is used at the rate of one ounce of dry powder to three gallons of water, applied at the date of 50 gallons to 1000 square feet of area, or if the grass is heavy, the quantity may be doubled. Whichever material is used the application should be made on the injured area and a few inches on each side into the apparently uninjured healthy grass.

Weeds, of which there are many of varied importance, are large offenders in the matter of growing lawns. There is no easy method of controlling weeds in lawns. The most important thing is the securing of as clean seed as possible in the first place, careful preparation to work out all of the weeds which are present in the lawn before planting. The use of fertilizer which does not contain weed seed is important.

WILD SCARLET LARKSPURS
By Ruth R. Nelson

Up through the ashy-gray
Of dust-strewn chaparral
You thrust your scarlet stalks
Like points of flame . . . . .
Beside an ancient canyon road
Where long ago the padres
First made winding way toward Monterey,
Dry summer hangs your tall straight stem
With vivid blossoms, nectar laden.

There in your place,
(For thus has man commanded)
You shall stand, unmolested by a human hand.
Yet all the while, the birds and bees
Take freely from your waiting lips
Vermilion-honeyed treasure.

LATH HOUSE BLUES

By Eva Kenworthy Gray

Since variety is the spice of life a little spice in the lath house in the shape of blue flowers adds a charming bit of color to an otherwise monotony of red, pink and white of the begonias.

This spring to vary it I planted a clump of the Campanula isophylla azure in among the rocks and it gave a fine display of light blue color. I found a plant of the Commelina growing on the sand bench in the glass house and I transplanted that in the border and it has been quite delightful as every morning when I go out to look things over, it is in full bloom with its dark blue two-petaled flowers that makes me think of the color of the Salvia patens. The Commelina is a day flower, opening early in the morning and closing up about noon, but there seems to be a steady procession of buds to follow its daily floral display.

The cultivated species are perennials and as I've had this for several years it must belong to that class. It can be propagated by cuttings and belongs to the Tradescantia family and like them is of creeping habit.

Then there are several clumps of the Platycodon, a pretty little blue bell-shaped flower and not of spreading habit but grows in a close cluster. It was formally classed with the Campanulas, but has been put in a species by itself in late years:

Perhaps the most striking flower of the series is the Heavenly blue of the Achimines. A much larger flower than the purple and is perfectly happy in the border where it can sprawl its long runners across the rocks. There is just enough shade under the lath to give it the needful light to bring out the color in all its glory.

A clump of blue Streptocarpus was divided into five parts and planted along the border and they too, have shown their appreciation of the surroundings to bloom lavishly.

There are other blue flowers that would do as well in the half shade the lath affords and I shall try more of them another year.

In Mrs. Chas. Calloway's lath house in La Jolla is the largest and finest Strobilanthes Dyerianus I ever saw. It is fully four feet tall and same in width and the colors of rich peacock blue causes one to migrate to the spot at once when entering the lath house. It is a striking plant and a focal point of interest among so many other fine begonias and tropical foliage plants.

Speaking of fine plants in the lath house Mrs. Calloway is very proud of a four-foot Clementine Diadema in bloom now for the first time.

The flowers are white and resemble those of the Palmata. The petals are of thick waxy texture and last for several days on the plant.

We should have a Begonia Club here and all get together and name some of the seedlings that are drifting around among the lath houses and no one has a name to call them by. Over in the Troth lath house they have a good many unnamed varieties that have been picked up here and there and I asked, "Why don't you name them?" and they said to me. "Go ahead and suggest some names for them." So I've been racking my brains for names that fit and then I've thought what if we did name someone else's seedlings, would there be war? Anyway, we can call them something and if the bonafide owner should turn up with ire in his eye, we would be only too glad to know their real name. There are several of these new ones with long graceful dark green leaves and one especially that has a red dot at its base and a large flower cluster of the same shade as Ecquador and is semi-double. Some of the flowers are six-petaled and others four. A delicate shade of salmon pink with many yellow stamens. A beautiful begonia. I have labeled mine Chiala—not official of course—and now let the originator come forth and beat me up.

Another fine one of Coralline Lucerne type with dark gren leaves of thick texture and lightly spotted with silver; edge slightly serrate and slightly wavy but without points. A large cluster of dark crimson flowers—the darkest red of any I've yet come across, so I said, "Let us call it Desdemonia." So they agreed and now we have a name for that unknown stray.

Mr. Cass has a lovely one he said he had picked up at El Cajon, no name of course. Leaf is large and wavy and of satin texture of medium green with clusters of drooping white flowers. I suggested Helena, and so we few who possess it know it as that. But it is subject to change if the original owner appears. We will apologize of course and write a new appellation if one is offered.

I have over eighty seedlings coming along and no two **exactly** alike. To distinguish them shall I have to name them all? When parents puzzle over naming the few children they possess what will one do with eighty names to tack on to their progeny? Begin with the alphabet and go on down from A to Z, perhaps.

Peter D. Barnhart writes from Manda's in New Jersey:

"I am counting the days that will bring me home once more. I almost forgot to tell you of Begonia Ecquadoriensis that I saw yesterday. Hundreds of them scattered all over the houses beneath palms, and other tropical plants. Never before have I seen them so luxuriant, not even in the great Robinson collection. I am wondering whether we don't know how to grow them, or whether it is the climate that favors them. His Cereus emeryi are a gorgeous golden color, very much finer than any that I saw in Mexico."

K. O. Sessions.

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SHARING OUR GARDENS WITH DISTANT FRIENDS

A real touch of our gardens may be sent to our friends at a distance in the following manner:

Get sheets of delicately tinted mounting paper. They need not all be the same size or shape but approximately the same is best for packing. Have at hand fresh sheets of tissue paper about the same size. Bring from your garden early in the morning, all the flowers that you feel you would just love to carry to a friend in the East that day.

Have a large table clear and proceed to make pictures, or decorative arrangements of the flowers by laying a few flat on the tinted background. This offers marvelous diversion to an invalid or shut in. Selecting the right background for each variety, then seeing how much may be eliminated and yet keep the feeling of that flower growing in the garden.

In the springtime, early when snow is just beginning to melt in the East, a portfolio of California Garden pictures proves a perfect delight. Just lay the flowers on the mounting paper, arrange the foliage and carefully place a tissue paper on it, then place a large heavy book on it and proceed to the next one. It is wise to have all under weight two or three hours, this presses them into place, but does not permit them to dry. Pack them very carefully between cardboard covers, tie up very tight and mail immediately. They will carry fragrance, color and the whole spirit of the garden to your friend. Send instructions about careful unpacking, else your work may be spoiled.

We have found it a very lovely thing to have each member of the family choose the flowers and make an arrangement as they would a painting, then sign it. This is a fine experience for children and they love to do it for Grandma.

—Hazel Boyer Braun.

CASSIAS

The famous gold and pink shower trees of Honolulu are Cassias, and we have several sorts of Cassias, small shrubs growing here, but none so gorgeous as those Mr. A. D. Robinson introduced. Cassias superba, which is a fall bloomer and a small tree or large shrub, is by far the best one we have, and it is in full bloom in October; a brilliant yellow flower and grows easily from seed. Cassia tomentosum is a small shrub and a perpetual bloomer and for that reason is desirable in any new garden. Mr. David Fairchild found a very beautiful one on the gold coast in S. Africa but considered it too tender for even southern California. Long yellow flowers like Wistaria blooms.*

K. O. Sessions.

*Cassia Siberiana.—(Ed.)

SOME NEW ORNITHOGALUMS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

I have been reading Mr. H. A. Bunyard's article on Ornithogalums in the June issue of "California Gardening," it is good to know that our Chinkeringchees are being noticed by the world's horticulturalists. Perhaps some information on species which are not so well known, yet of more value from the horticultural standpoint, might be useful. Last year visitors to the Cape Town wild flower show stood entranced before a bowl of immense Chinkeringchees of a brilliant vermilion shade. Whne I say immense I mean they were about the same size as some very good specimens of O. Abyssinicum which stood near them. About 3 feet high, the individual blooms bowl shaped, the wonderful color enhanced by the satiny texture of the petals. A handful of them was kept here in water for six weeks, after a 3-days journey in the train, 1 day on exhibition, they then set seeds which have germinated well. This is the most cheerful part of the story for Ornithogalum splendens is still extremely rare, being only found in the mountains in one particular district which is exceptionally dry, the bulbs are not taking kindly to the wet winters and springs at the Cape. However, no one grudges a little trouble over such a surpassingly good thing. I forgot to mention that the foliage which is a glaucous grey sets off the scarlet blossoms to perfection. Ornithogalum thyrsoides aureum is to my mind not a very attractive species. To begin with it is mostly yellow and some people may admire yellow, but then it is very short, mostly not more than six inches to one foot. Although it varies a good deal both in height and color, there certainly are forms of it that are good to have. Very much better is O. speciosum, the color is a good orange and there is a fascinating brown spot on the tip of each of the three outer segments and the leaves are glaucous like those of O. splendens, but again it is very scarce. Still we are doing our best to remedy this defect.

Another "Chink" which increases much more rapidly is the double form of O. thyrsoides. This is really an excellent flower for cutting. The spikes are very "full" and resemble very good tuberoses and they remain fresh for six weeks or so in the garden in the full midsummer sun, in water in the house where the ends of the stalks were cut occasionally I suppose they would be fresh for months, the florists will probably think they rather overstep the mark. They set no seed but make myriads of bulblets which planted out will bloom in two years. When we ship these blooms overseas there will not be much more sale for O. thyrsoides. Probably there are many more species worthy of cultivation but in a country such as South Africa where distances are so great and collectors so scarce and propagators even

scarcer, we seem to accomplish little but it is always encouraging to know that there are enthusiasts on the other side of the globe waiting for any treasures that we have to offer.

—K. C. Stanford.

TORREYA CALIFORNICA
The California Nutmeg

Of the six species of Torreya in China, Japan, Florida and California, Torreya californica, a cone-bearing tree of the north coast redwoods is the most famous both as a native and as an ornamental in horticulture. Though not usually a tall tree, seldom reaching a height of more than seventy feet, it is a handsome ornamental, preferring surroundings similar to those of the cool, shady canyons not far from the sea in the humid belt south to the Santa Cruz Mountains.

This genus was named for John Torrey, the master mind of botany at Columbia University, New York, in the early days before railroads were known in the far west. The Pacific Wagon Road of the U. S. Department of the Interior was the only means of transportation from the surveying station at the 111th meridian on the Mexican Boundary from which point Major William H. Emoryi was laying the measurements of the political division between our country and Mexico to the sea before the Overland Railway was built.

It was at this station that explorations of the Cactaceae began under the direction of Dr. George Engelmann of the Missouri Botanical Garden. At this time John Torrey, a student of western botany, began collecting plants west of the Rockies in the territories surrounding California and at the present time his diagnosis of the flora of this region is held in highest esteem in the Torrey Herbarium of native western plants in New York under the name of "Torrey and Gray Plants" of the Southwest. At that time the masses of wild flowers of the wild west were one of the chief glories of America. These trails came into California to Tiajuana where the pioneer botanists began their journeys south as far as the wagon roads went, and over the mainland of the San Diego area where Cyrus G. Pringle, curator of the Gray Herbarium at Harvard, was stationed after the death of Dr. Torrey, the lifetime leader of Asa Gray who became the most noted botanist of the United States. Although Dr. Gray never collected personally west of the Cordilleras, his plants, under this directorship of Dr. Gray, collected by Dr. Pringle, were conserved in the Torrey Herbarium and most of those of local fame from San Diego are known as Torrey and Gray plants in our western botanies. Many of them are rare and known only in the Laguna Mountains and the adjoining "Pinon Belt" of the rim of the Salton Sea portion of the Colorado Desert.

Many more extend indefinitely north throughout the deserts.

In 1882 a party consisting of Cyrus G. Pringle, C. C. Parry, Charles Russell Orcutt of San Diego, and Marcus E. Jones of Salt Lake City, visited Lower California, below Ensenada, and collected then unknown plants of botanical value, besides making discoveries of species of cactus that were the beginning of the once notable Cactus Garden of Mr. Orcutt on Sherman Heights, quite unique in its time.

The botanical consciousness of these worthy scientists is a legacy for the generations of now and the future. Where the vision falls upon what is now the beginning of days, Dr. Perry in his authorship of the Torrey Pine has radiated the knowledge of geographic botany all over the land.

Genus Torryea californica.

Synonym: Tumion californica.

A cone-bearing tree of the Yew family, one of the oldest forest trees found in fossil beds. From its drupaceous fruits resembling those of a nutmeg it gets its name from the fact that the aril or outside part fuses with the inner texture as in Myristicaceae, the nutmeg family.

AN INTERESTING SUCCULENT

At Washington Park (Old Town Plaza) there may be found an interesting perennial succulent in bloom. Here are two Furcraea gigantea var. willemetiana (Mauritius Hemp), a stemless plant indigenous to Southeastern Brazil. It bears large, fleshy leaves three to six feet in length, some of which are smooth edged while others are provided with short spines along the margins generally about the center but sometimes near the base.

At this period when it is in flower it produces a stalk or inflorescence nearly twenty-five feet in height, which bears large panicles of greenish white flowers resembling those of the Yucca. After the bloom, come numerous bulbils, which, falling off, produce new plants.

It depends on the culture how many years will elapse between the bulbil stage and the blooming time.

C. I. JERABEK.

GARDEN FRAGRANCE AS GIFTS

We often send the fragrance of our garden on journeys with our friends. We find it a lovely gift for one who does not see the color and beauty of the flowers.

We get some white organdy and have a dying party which the children love. We dye squares of the material many bright colors, then sew up dainty little bags. We put leaves of lemon verbena in yellow bags, rose geranium in the rosy ones, mint or mint geranium in the dark green ones, the leaves of apple geranium in the pale green ones, orange blossoms in the orange bags and lavender in the violet colored ones. We tie each one with dainty ribbons and put one of each kind in a box. When they are opened, a New York apartment may be made as fragrant as your garden.

—H. B. B.

THE EUCALYPTUS AT RANCHO SANTA FE

By Ruth R. Nelson,
Rancho Santa Fe, California

When you motor through Southern California you will see countless plantings of eucalyptus lending additional charm to many country landscapes among the dry foothills, and also along the shorelines. Sometimes one great eucalyptus stands splendidly alone, at a curve of the highway. You will see numberless groups of these stately trees designed merely for ornamental purposes; or closely planted windbreaks used as part of orchard developments; while in many places veritable forests of eucalyptus give welcome diversity to an otherwise treeless outlook.

First brought from Australia into California about thirty years ago, for strictly commercial purposes, the eucalyptus has now become one of our best-loved trees, especialy prized because its characteristic all-year greenness blends equally with the dry brown of the hills during summer, as well as their cleanly washed winter aspect. The eucalyptus is a vigorous tree, well able to withstand California's long rainless periods, and to renew itself quickly when cut back for any purpose, or its limbs, heavily weighted with seed pods, have been broken by wind and storm. Lifting feathery gracefulness to outline vistas of the sea, glistening thanks to low morning fogs, or perhaps etched boldly against a glowing sunset, the eucalyptus has been the inspiration of so many canvases, and clever pieces of camera work, that it now seems as inseparably "native" Californian as the palms and yucca of the desert, and the redwoods in our national parks.

Three million eucalyptus trees of more than a dozen varieties were planted about twenty years ago at Rancho Santa Fe, one of California's historic old land grants, first acquired by the Santa Fe for a timber and tie experiment suggested by President Roosevelt. Six million eucalyptus seeds were procured in Australia for this purpose, and several years of work resulted in the propagation and transplanting of one-half the proposed number before it was decided to abandon the experiment. After some years, opportunity to provide the rancho with an adequate water supply for irrigation, led to the present transformation from a vast eucalyptus forest to a well-planned community where the trees have proven to be an indescribably beautiful landscaping feature. To have the added charm of well-established trees already in place at the rancho where houses, offices, stores and the Guest House could be fitted into their natural setting, has given the project an "established" atmosphere which would have taken years to acquire in any other way.

The building architects at Rancho Santa Fe, as well as the landscape architects, have constantly availed themselves of this valuable asset, in many of the rancho's architectural and landscaping developments. Fully grown trees have been carefully selected and protected during many major building operations, and thus formed the initial unit for further landscaping.

So the eucalyptus at Rancho Santa Fe have become as integral a part of the project's developments, as the inevitable palms used in formal planting, and the century-old olive trees which lend Spanish "atmosphere" to the patios and walled gardens of the rancho's estates.—Encinitas Progress.

RAINFORD
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Cut Flowers
Floral Designs

1115 Fourth Street *San Diego*

CACTUS AND CISSUS

In July issue, Howard E. Gates, writing of his experiences and observations in Lower California, says: "On Todos Bay near Ensenada one should find the red flowered Echinocereus pacificus. There are plenty of yellow-flowered Maritimus, but the Pacificus always seems to be in hiding. I have never seen one, nor met any one who has."

Last June when on the mountains in Arizona I saw, on the side of a slope, a red flowering cactus, which I was told by Fred Gibson, Assistant Superintendent of Boyce Thompson

Arboretum, was Echinocereus Coccineus. Certainly the flowers were a brilliant red. To get to the clump I was obliged to crawl on hands and knees. A younger man might have reached it on foot, but that is the way I had to approach it. That clump is now growing in a garden in California. The climate where its grows is decidedly wet during the entire year; the elevation, 7200 feet.

It shall have water in abundance during our dry season. Can it be that it is the same species Gates refers to with a different specific name? Tell me, Gates!

Recently I came across a species of Cissus, with compound serrate foliage, which bears brilliant black berries, 15 to 20 in a cluster on a pedicale two to three inches long. These fruiting stems grow from the opposite side of the vine; not in the axil of the leaves. The fruit will be given to the Coolidge people in Pasadena for propagation. A deciduous vine of rapid growth that is worthy a place in Southern California Gardens. The thought must be kept in mind that the grape tribe—Vitaceae—is diecious, therefore fruiting plants must be grown from cuttings.

I learned this lesson this season, when scouting through the wilds of New Jersey, where Fox Grapes abound in two species: one red, the other black, the red, two weeks earlier in ripening.

This new found thing I believe to be Cissus oligocarpa though Bailey says it is herbaceous.

—Peter D. Barnhart.

MISS KATE SESSIONS IS INSPIRATION OF PROSPECTIVE BALBOA PARK PLANT PROJECT

By Nelda Perry

A tribute to Miss Kate O. Sessions, an aloe and agave garden to contain the most complete collection of these plants on the coast, is soon to be started in Balboa Park. The San Diego Floral Association is sponsoring this tribute in appreciation of Miss Sessions' untiring and enthusiastic services as a member, and has received the park board's co-operation in donating the ground.

For almost 50 years, Miss Sessions has been the horticultural leader and guide of this city. Her introduction of new plants suitable to this climate and her vigorous promotion of them is greatly responsible for the wealth and variety of our present vegetation. It was due to her foresight and activity in the earlier years that many of the cocos plumosa palms, that now lift their waving plumes above homes and streets, were planted. Today San Diego is famous for these magnificent specimens. Some of the very first trees planted in what is now Balboa Park were set out by Miss Sessions and may be seen today near the Upas Street entrance. At that time, her first nursery here was located on adjoining ground.

Will Provide Plans

It has been the deep concern of her many friends that Miss Sessions has been ill for several months. She is now in Mercy Hospital recovering from an operation and expects soon to be able to inspect the grounds for the garden. She will draw the plans and is eager to begin work on them. She plans to have the garden simple and formal in design with a small amount of rock work.

Many letters from cactus and succulent societies and from interested individuals have been received by the Floral association and by Miss Sessions, congratulating them on the prospective garden and generous offers of contributions have not been lacking. Miss Sessions is also giving some very fine specimens of plants which she possesses.

It is estimated that there will be more than 100 varieties each of aloes and agaves in the collection. It will be of tremendous asset to students and fans for study and identification of these particular plants. Of aloes and agaves Miss Sessions says:

"The reason I have chosen these two classes of plants is that they, of all plants, require the least amount of care and water. San Diego already has the finest collection of aloes of any city in the state and the location is particularly fine for them as aloes will not grow where there is frost. This fall is a very favorable time to plant as many of them will bloom this winter.

"Agaves are prickly, savage things and grow a long time before blooming. They die after blossoming but they replace themselves by offshoots, so we do not lose them."

Hobby Is Succulents

Aloes are practically all natives of South Africa. Their coral, scarlet and vari-colored blossoms, on candelabra-like stalks brilliantly accent our southern plantings. They range in size from gnome-like miniatures to varieties whose blossom stalks attain a heighth of 30 or 40 feet. From our neighbor, Mexico, comes most of the agaves. Their most commonly recognized member is the century plant whose lofty crest of saffron blossoms against a blue sky cannot be excelled for dignity and purity of design.

Miss Sessions' hobby, if she has one, is the cultivation of succulents. At her home on Mt. Soledad, which is virtually a plant paradise, she has a large area devoted to these plants. It affords Miss Sessions' friends great satisfaction that they are able to dedicate a garden of this kind to her.

The site of the garden is adjacent to the Yorick theatre building.—San Diego Union.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912,

Of California Garden, published monthly at Point Loma, California, October, 1931.
State of California, County of San Diego, ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared John Bakkers, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the California Garden, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Calif.

Editor, S. B. Osborn, Box 323, San Diego, Cal.
Business Manager, John Bakkers, P. O. Box 323, San Diego, Cal.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.) San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Cal., Pres. M. A. Greer, 2972 First Street, San Diego, Cal.; Sec. A. S. Hill, P. O. Box 323, San Diego, Cal. There is no capital stock.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

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5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is. (This information is required from daily publications only.)

S. B. OSBORN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd day of October, 1931.

E. C. UPP,
Notary Public.

NOTES OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the S. D. Floral Assn. will be held Tuesday, November 17.

Mr. Hugh Evans of Santa Monica will be the speaker of the evening. He will bring many specimens of his rare collection of shrubs and trees. This will be a rare treat for garden members and a large attendance is expected.

NO PROFESSIONAL GARDENERS! !

I was astonished to read "A Scottish Gardener's" assertion, in the middle of page 253, that "there is not such a freak as a professional gardener," but "a gardener may be a theoretical or a practical gardener." Are we to understand, then, that there is no such thing as an "amateur" gardener? No, no, my friend, you are a bit muddled. A professional gardener is one who grows plants for sale; an amateur is one who grows plants for love and interest. Both amateur and professional may be practical or theoretical. The fact that gardening is "not a profession, but a craft" has nothing to do with the question; the point is that professional gardening is a trade in the sense that the professional gardener expects to be paid for his work; the amateur does not.

What about professional cricketers, actors, carpenters, beekeepers, engineers, electricians, etc., etc.?

C. Nicholson.
(Gardening Illustrated)

LOUD COLORS BANNED ON NATIONAL FOREST BUILDINGS

Not content with abolishing sign boards and routing roads according to landscape effects, the U. S. Forest Service has just issued an order to holders of permits for commercial concessions on government land in national forests to remove all color screams in the way of placards, and to harmonize the paint jobs on their buildings with various shades of green, brown and gray. According to a statement by Regional Forester S. B. Show, there has been so much criticism of the use of loud colors on resorts, service stations and stores located on government land that it is believed commercial permittees will be more successful if the general colors of their structures will conform to the woodland background.

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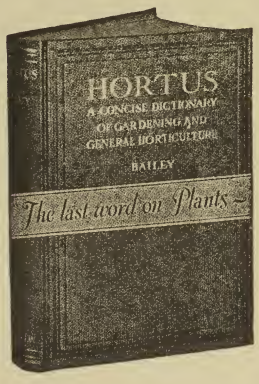

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